

From: Kunz [mailto:elkunz@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2008 9:02 AM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: MLPA Comments - North Central Area

As a lifelong outdoorsman and conservationist, I would like to offer my support of Draft Proposal 2 (JD).

As an avid kayak fisherman and occasional abalone diver, I treasure the natural beauty and healthy bounty that is offered by the north/central California coast. I believe draft proposal 2 (JD) offers the best balance between the conservation of our ocean resources and preservation of a reasonable level of ocean access for purposes of a variety of unique recreational activities including sustainable levels of harvest.

I also believe this proposal does the best job of minimizing the impacts to the extremely fragile local micro-economies in this area. Many small businesses depend on ocean-related recreational opportunities in order to make ends meet.

Further, by retaining a reasonable level of access to safe launch areas and coves offering protection from the predominant NW swell and wind patterns, I believe this proposal is in the best interest of the welfare of those who venture onto the ocean in these parts. With the death of several abalone divers each year (9 in 2007 alone), public safety demands that safe access be preserved.

When a tax is imposed, it is almost always permanent... regardless of what promises are made at the outset. Likewise when access to something is restricted, it is rarely ever given back. These fisheries are a major part of California's heritage and one that should not be taken lightly.

Thank you,

Erik Kunz – Santa Rosa, CA